

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. **(Original)** A method for the automatic creation of a visual summary of video content of a video source, comprising the steps of:

(a) automatic extraction of a plurality of keyframes representing scenes from a video source according to predetermined criteria to produce an initial visual summary;

(b) assigning weights to a particular group of keyframes extracted in step (a) representing a particular scene of the video source in the initial visual summary;

(c) refining the initial visual summary into a modified visual summary by filtering the keyframes having a lower weight assigned in step (b) relative to higher-weighted keyframes from the particular group of keyframes from the particular scene of the video source; and

(d) adjusting a keyframe display rate of the modified visual summary to correspond with a fast forward/rewind speed of the video source so that the keyframes can be displayed during fast forward/rewind of the video source.

2. **(Original)** The method according to Claim 1, wherein assignment of weights in step (b) includes assigning the weights based on a relative time each of the keyframes in the particular group represents of the particular scene from the video source.

3. **(Original)** The method according to Claim 2, wherein the keyframes in the particular group that represent less than a predetermined threshold of time in the particular scene of the video source are filtered.

4. **(Original)** The method according to Claim 1, wherein the keyframe display rate is adjusted to correspond with a user-selected fast forward/rewind speed of the video source.

5. **(Original)** The method according to Claim 1, wherein the adjusting of the keyframe display rate in step (d) includes providing audio for the modified visual summary during fast forward/rewind.

6. **(Original)** The method according to Claim 1, wherein the adjusting of the keyframe display includes replacing individual keyframes by short sets of frames that capture movement in the particular scene.

7. **(Original)** The method according to Claim 1, wherein the weighting of the keyframes is based on user-specified interests.

8. **(Original)** The method according to Claim 7, wherein the user-specified interests include images of specific actors in the video source.

9. **(Original)** The method according to Claim 7, wherein the user-specified interests include movement of actors in the video source.

10. **(Original)** A method for creation of a visual summary of video content of a video source comprising the steps of:

(a) designating a plurality of frames from a video source as keyframes;

(b) adjusting a display rate of the keyframes designated in step (a) according to a fast forward/rewind speed of the video source so that the keyframes are displayed for a predetermined time during fast forward/rewind of the video source.

11. **(Original)** The method according to Claim 10, further including (c) providing an audio portion for the keyframes designated in step (a).

12. **(Original)** The method according to Claim 11, where the audio portion is a substitute audio portion customized to correspond to the designated keyframes.

13. **(Original)** The method according to Claim 11, wherein step (c) includes providing a plurality of audio portions, wherein a particular audio portion is selected to match the display rate of the keyframes in step (b).

14. **(Original)** The method according to Claim 10, where a portion of the designated keyframes in step (a) comprise an advertisement.

15. **(Original)** The method according to Claim 14, wherein the substitute audio portion comprises one of: (1) a description of the product advertised in the portion of the designated keyframes comprising the advertisement, and (2) a pronunciation of the name of the product advertised in the portion of the designated keyframes comprising an advertisement.

16. **(Original)** The method according to Claim 10, wherein step (a) includes providing at least one user-created alternative keyframe to the visual summary that did not originate from the video source.

17. **(Original)** The method according to Claim 16, wherein said at least one user-created alternative keyframe comprises an advertisement.

18. **(Original)** A system for the automatic creation of a visual summary of video content of a video source, comprising:

means for extraction of a plurality of keyframes representing scenes from a video source according to predetermined criteria to produce an initial visual summary;

means for assigning weights to a particular group of keyframes extracted by the means for extraction representing a particular scene of the video source in the initial visual summary;

means for refining the initial visual summary into a modified visual summary by filtering the keyframes having a lower weight relative to higher-weighted keyframes from the particular group of keyframes from the particular scene of the video source; and

means for adjusting a keyframe display rate of the modified visual summary to correspond with a fast forward/rewind speed of the video source so that the keyframes are displayed during fast forward/rewind.

19. **(Original)** The system according to Claim 18, wherein the means for extraction comprises manual designation of keyframes representative of the video source.

20. **(Original)** The system according to Claim 18, wherein the means for extraction comprises automatic extraction means.

21. **(Original)** The system according to Claim 18, wherein the means for assigning assigns the weights to the particular group of keyframes according to a relative time span represented by each respective keyframe.

22. **(Original)** The system according to Claim 21, wherein the means for adjusting the keyframe display rate adjusts the display rate according to a user-selected fast forward/rewind speed of the video source.